

In response to the objections received from the four residents who have properties to the rear of the bowling club and Ty Isaf Park, I, on behalf of the club, would like to make the following observations to alleviate any concerns the residents have in respect of the club's application to vary the club premises certificate.

It clearly appears from the representations, that the residents are concerned about the generation of noise as a result of the application including the provision of recorded and live music until 23.30. I would wish to reassure them, that this has been included to cover the possibility of the club wishing to have music for specific functions. The likelihood of this occurring would be limited to may be no more than a few times a year. Such functions would be, perhaps, a club member celebrating a special birthday; when the club has its presentation night; and, if there is members interested (between 40 and 50 people) on New Year's Eve. It is certainly no intention to have live music on a regular basis to attract people who are not associated with the club.

Club members are predominately of an older generation, in fact, the average age of members is over 70 years of age. In recent years a few members have celebrated their 80th. birthday at the club and it is this type of function when the club may wish to provide music. It should be noted that if music is played at such functions, there will be a condition included, whereby, doors have to be kept closed.

It is intended that the club will continue to operate in exactly the same way as it has done in the past. The bar is only made available during the bowling season when matches are being played. This generally is on Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday evenings and Saturday. There are the odd occasions when cup games are played on a Friday evening and rearranged games having to be played on a Sunday. There is no music played on these days.

In the closed season, that is, from mid-September to mid-April, the club opens for members' social evenings when member numbers are quite limited. Generally there are only between 12 and 24 club members meeting for social purposes only.

There is a post script on one of the letters, which says, "it was a respected part of the community for the older generation. Please just keep it as a bowls club." It is good to hear that the bowls club is a respected part of the community and the club's aim is to continue to be seen in that light.

Since receipt of the residents letters, there has also been replies from the Responsible Authorities, namely, Police, Environmental Health Dept. and the Licensing Dept. all of which have recommended conditions being attached to the license. In particular, it is recommended that any music should cease at 23.00 and consumption of alcohol in outside areas restricted to 22.00 with appropriate notices being displayed in the club. The club wishing to have regard to the resident's concerns and acting in a responsible manner will accept the RA's recommendations.

The main aim of making the application to vary the club premises certificate is to regulate issues where the club has unknowingly and unintentionally not fully followed conditions in the past. On behalf of the club, I would like to assure the respondents and residents at large, that the granting of the application will not alter the way in which the bowling club conducts its business in the future.

As I am representing the club, I would be happy to meet the respondents and explain the club's position, albeit, there nothing more that I could add that isn't covered by the above.

David Willing,
Club Chairman,
On behalf of Pontymister Welfare B.C.